

1 of insurance contracts?

2 MR. O'CONNOR: Alcohol, yes, drug
3 treatment, no.

4 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: Has any consideration
5 been given to including problem gaming within the
6 mandate of coverages?

7 MR. O'CONNOR: Not that I'm aware of.

8 CHAIRMAN JAMES: Any other questions?

9 Thank you very much.

10 We'll now hear from one of Atlantic City's
11 finest, Captain Richard Andrews.

12 CAPTAIN ANDREWS: Thank you and good
13 afternoon. On behalf of the Atlantic City Police
14 Department, I'd like to thank you for allowing me to
15 address the Gaming Commission.

16 I am presently the Captain of the Casino
17 Hotel Investigation Section of the Atlantic City
18 Police Department. The casino unit was implemented
19 shortly after the passage of casino gambling.
20 Currently in my office, there are 14 detectives
21 assigned to the unit, including myself and one
22 sergeant. Our function involves the investigation of

1 all crimes that occur on casino properties. However,
2 we are limited by jurisdictional boundaries. Those
3 boundaries were dictated by a memorandum of
4 understanding dated back on June 15th of '79, between
5 all law enforcement agencies.

6 What this memorandum states, the Atlantic
7 City Police Department will enforce violations of the
8 2C Code on all casino properties, except for the
9 actual casino floor.

10 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: What does that mean?

11 CAPTAIN ANDREWS: Excuse me?

12 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: What does that mean,
13 the 2C Code?

14 CAPTAIN ANDREWS: That's our laws for New
15 Jersey. They go by number.

16 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: It used to be number
17 two.

18 CHAIRMAN JAMES: Between one and three.

19 CAPTAIN ANDREWS: In other words, if you
20 are arrested, you will be charged with 2C-33
21 something, dash, that might be breaking and entering,
22 larceny, something like that, that's what the 2C Code

1 is.

2 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: Property crimes?

3 CAPTAIN ANDREWS: Yes.

4 The Police Department, in general, has
5 moved on significantly since the passage of casino
6 gambling. When I became a policeman in 1972, we had
7 a total of 200 officers. As of this date, that number
8 has doubled, and we continue to move on.

9 Not only has our department grown, we've
10 also added additional units. We have an excellent
11 bond disposal unit, SWAT team, canine unit and several
12 other new units.

13 The Commission will undoubtedly want to
14 know how the casino crime element is being addressed
15 by the Atlantic City Police Department. I've been
16 advised that our public relations officer has made
17 available to you certain statistics.

18 Briefly, I'd like to touch on these
19 statistics and offer you some information detailing
20 how the casino unit handles the crime element. First
21 of all, in the Atlantic City Press, dated December
22 14th of '97, the Captain of the Division of Gaming

1 Enforcement, that would be the State Police, the other
2 law enforcement agency that deals with crime in the
3 casinos, in his report he stated that more than half
4 of these crimes that occur on the casino floor are
5 non-violent thefts, that being your pick pockets, coin
6 thefts, things of that nature.

7 This is most accurate. However, within our
8 jurisdiction, we have reported 2,621 thefts out of
9 3,221 crimes for the 1997 period. It appears that
10 these crimes of opportunity are most troublesome and
11 are addressed when time and manpower allows.

12 As I previously stated, my office employs
13 12 detectives for 12 casinos on a 24-hour basis. With
14 this limited manpower, it becomes necessary for us to
15 prioritize our cases. In other words, we would
16 immediately investigate a violent incident, for
17 example, robbery, rape, assault, crimes in progress
18 would obviously be dealt with by uniform patrol or a
19 follow-up investigation by my office.

20 At this time, and of utmost importance to
21 the Police Department and casino officials is the
22 juvenile problem, namely, unattended juveniles.

1 National media attention has focused on this problem,
2 and has opened our eyes here in Atlantic City to deal
3 with the same. Myself, along with Captain Al Rongione
4 of the Juvenile Section, have met with casino
5 officials for the purpose of enforcing curfew
6 violations within the casinos and to put an end to the
7 dilemma of juveniles wandering about the casino hotels
8 without parental guidance.

9 On a personal note, I'd like to offer the
10 Commission some of my thoughts concerning casino
11 gambling in Atlantic City. Being a life-long resident
12 of Atlantic City, I have seen the metamorphosis the
13 city has undergone. I lived at what is now the Trump
14 Worlds Fair, our playing field is now their parking
15 lot.

16 During the '50 and '60s, Atlantic City was
17 a thriving town, with tourism and conventions being
18 its primary industry. The boardwalk was crowded at
19 all hours of the night, there were bars and
20 restaurants on every corner, tourists came from all
21 over the country.

22 When we approached the late '60s into the

1 '70s, Atlantic City's future was dismal. Tourism
2 started to decline, and major businesses left the
3 area. In the spring of 1972, I entered the Police
4 Department. At this time, unemployment was out of
5 control, as was crime in the city.

6 Unlike today, violent crime existed on a
7 regular basis. Offenders thought nothing of robbing
8 a gas station for \$40.00 or knocking a woman to the
9 ground for \$10.00. Statistics will show that from the
10 pre-gambling era crime has decreased somewhat
11 significantly. There's no doubt that gambling has
12 placed many people in the employment pool.

13 I have personally witnessed many people I
14 have taken through the justice system that are now
15 employed and supporting their families. This is not
16 to say that crime does not exist, any urban city has
17 its share of problems.

18 As indicated from the statistics, we
19 processed approximately 3,221 cases this year, and for
20 the population of over 36 million I don't think the
21 numbers are too bad, particularly, when more than two
22 thirds are of a non-violent nature.

1 In closing, I'd like to thank the
2 Commission for the time allowed to convey my thoughts.
3 I hope my information has been of some assistance.
4 I'll be glad to answer any questions.

5 CHAIRMAN JAMES: Thank you, Captain
6 Andrews.

7 Commissioner Bible?

8 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: The previous testifier
9 indicated that in 1995 437 juveniles were taken into
10 custody, I assume that was by your department. What
11 happens to those individuals as they get processed
12 through the justice system?

13 CAPTAIN ANDREWS: At this time, I cannot
14 give you an accurate answer. I will refer with our
15 juvenile captain and forward you a report.

16 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: Thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN JAMES: Any additional questions?

18 Again, thank you so much for taking time
19 away from your duties today to be here with us.

20 Our final presenter is Stephen Simurda, got
21 it, Simurda, with the United States Gambling Research
22 Institute.